

- 1) A player is offside and penalized if, at the time the ball touches or is played by a teammate, the player is involved in active play and interferes with play or with an opponent or seeks to gain an advantage by being in that position. *A player in an offside position receiving the ball from an opponent, who deliberately plays the ball (except from a deliberate save), is NOT considered to have gained an advantage.* (11.1.4)
- “Deliberately plays the ball” – this is the change to the rule that resets the player who was in the offside position. Playing the ball means “touching” and the action must be deliberate.
 - Example 1 – player A1 makes a pass/cross to player A2 who is clearly in an offside position. Defender B1 jumps to re-direct the cross and makes slight and inconsequential contact with the ball. The ball continues to A2 who settles the ball and continues toward goal. **RULING:** continue play, A2 is not offside. By deliberately touching the ball, the defender “reset” the position of A2 so he is not in an offside position.
 - Example 2 – player A1 makes the same cross to player A2. Defender B1 jumps to deflect but does not touch the ball. A2 settles the ball. **RULING:** Offside . While the jump was deliberate there was not “playing” or touching of the ball.
 - Example 3 – player A1 makes same cross to player A2. The ball hits defender B1 in the back, unseen to him, and deflects to A2. **RULING:** Offside. There was no deliberate attempt to play the ball so no “reset” for player A2.
 - Example 4 – player A1 throws in to player A2 who is in an offside position. A2 heads the ball into the goal. **RULING:** player A2 was not offside as he was receiving a throw in. Goal is good.
 - Example 5 – player A1 throws in to player A2 who is in an offside position. At the time of the throw in, A2 has no defender between him and the goal line. The goalkeeper muffs his attempt to catch the ball, touching it in the process. Ball would not have gone into the goal from the original throw in. Ball from the keeper’s error rebounds to A2 who scores. **RULING:** The muffed attempt by the keeper was both “deliberate” and a “touch” and therefore “resets” A2 so he is not offside. Goal is good.

- **Example 6 – player A1 throws in to player A2 who is in an offside position. The ball deflects off the head of defender B3 who had his back to the thrower, A1. The ball continues to A2 who scores. RULING: goal is not good. There was no “deliberate” attempt to touch the ball as B3 did not see the ball. A2 is offside.**
- **Example 7 – player A1 makes a pass/cross (which would not have gone into the goal if untouched) into the penalty area. Player A2 is in an offside position when the goal keeper muffs his catch, touching the ball in the process. The ball deflects to A2 who scores. RULING: player A2 was offside until the keeper deliberately touches the ball, Because the cross/pass was not heading toward the goal frame the keeper’s touch is NOT considered a “deliberate save.” The touch resets A2’s position, he is NOT offside and the goal is good.**
- **Example 8 – player A1 makes a pass/cross (which would have gone into the goal if untouched) into the penalty area. Player A2 is in an offside position when the goal keeper muffs his catch, but deflects the ball in the process. The ball falls to A2 who scores. RULING: player A2 was offside until the keeper deliberately touches the ball, But because the cross/pass was heading toward the goal frame and would have gone in, the keeper’s touch is now considered a “deliberate save.” This now validates A2 as being offside and the goal is not good.**
- **We need to be able to differentiate between a ball that is heading on frame (shot on goal) and one that is not. This is the determining factor for whether to consider the keeper’s touch a “deliberate save” or not.**

DEFINITIONS

- ***Gaining an advantage by being in that position:* a player who plays a ball that rebounds to him/her off a goal post or the crossbar after having been in an offside position, or a player who after being in an offside position plays a ball that rebounds to him/her off an opponent who has not deliberately played the ball or made a deliberate save. (18.1.1)**
- ***Interfering with an opponent:* preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstructing the opponent’s line of vision or movement of challenging an opponent for the ball. (18.1.1)**
- ***Interfering with play:* playing or touching the ball passed or touched by a teammate. (18.1.1)**

